

Serving the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities

BattleKings fire proven accurate

Sgt. Mason T. Lowery
Staff Writer

The 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment Soldiers recieved the highest award in field artillery Nov. 5 for their actions during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Col. Thomas Torrance, Division Artillery commander, hung a streamer on A Battery, 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment Soldiers' guidon and gave them a commemorative plaque.

This was the first time the 9th Regiment won the award, which was first awarded in 1924.

The award was presented in the field. Assassin Soldiers took a break from their training to be honored, but then it was right back to work as they took their first steps toward recertification and combat readiness.

Maj. Gen. Michael Maples, chief of Army Field Artillery, presented the award to A Btry. 1st Sgt. Joseph Henry and A Btry. Commander Capt. William Brodany Oct. 23 at a field artillery awards banquet at Fort Sill. The field presentation was for the Soldiers who did the work, Torrance said.

A Battery Soldiers competed against all artillery units worldwide units for the award. They were deployed to the Middle East for 11 months. They were strategically separated from the rest of the 1/9 FA Bn. and operated in support of 3rd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Soldiers, according to Torrance.

"That's not a mission we anticipated, 1st Sgt. Henry and his folks stepped up to the challenge," he said.

Henry put the responsibility back on his Soldiers. "These Soldiers stepped up during the war because all their training was second nature. All I did

was give them chow and water — they did the rest."

The Assassins fired more than 2,000 rounds with 3/7 soldiers and greatly contributed to the war effort, according to Torrance.

A lot of the Soldiers thought their job with field artillery was to hang back from the front and fire rounds at the enemy over great distances. Henry explained the difference between the BattleKings' roles in Operation Desert Storm and OIF. "We actually ran with the armor and infantry Soldiers. In Desert Storm, we just fired."

One month before Marne Soldiers crossed into Iraq, 1/9 Soldiers joined 3/7 Soldiers in the desert and trained together. Spc. Charles Guillory, A Btry., explained the combined arms tactic they used in the war.



Sgt. Mason T. Lowery

DIVARTY Commander Col. Thomas Torrance adds a streamer to A Btry's guidon Nov. 5 as 1/9 FA Bn. Commander Lt. Col. Steven Merkel, Spc. David Miller, A Btry, and A Btry 1st Sgt. Joseph Henry look on.

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Reservists' conditions improve

Sgt. R. James Piper
Staff Writer

Winn Army Community Hospital and the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield garrison command are continuing to work to improve the living and medical conditions for Medical Hold Soldiers.

A fourth operating room opened at Winn and has the capability of performing an additional 60 to 80 surgeries each month.

"Having a fourth operating room open gives our surgeons more operating time so they can do more cases and get Soldiers into the operating room quicker," said Col. Joseph Barthel, Winn commander.

An additional ten Soldiers were transferred to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Fort Gordon, Ga., Nov. 5.

"The Soldiers sent to Eisenhower received the majority of their treatment from the hospital so it made sense to send them there," Barthel said.

Prior to the 3rd Infantry Division's (Mechanized) deployment the hospital saw 33,000 to 34,000 outpatient visits per month. When the division deployed, that number dropped to about 27,000 visits per month, and since the division has been back, there were 43,000 visits in August

See **RESERVES**, Page 15A

Saluting our warriors



Pfc. Emily J. Danial

A 3rd Inf. Div. Soldier salutes reviewing stand officials as part of the downtown Savannah Veterans Day Parade, riding in a humvee driven down Broughton Street Tuesday morning. (For full story and photos, see page 2A.)

Fla. Guard Soldiers return from Iraq deployment

Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody
Staff Writer

Soldiers from the Florida National Guard's 2nd and 3rd Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment returned home from a months-long deployment to Iraq Nov. 5 at Fort Stewart's Caro Gymnasium.

Family members and leadership from the Florida Guard gave the Soldiers a hero's welcome as they filed through the wide gymnasium doors.

Col. Mitch Perryman, 53rd Infantry Brigade commander, gave remarks and congratulated the Soldiers on a job well done.

The Orlando-based 53rd Inf. Bde., which includes the 124th Inf. Regt., is the largest National Guard unit in Florida.

"You have made the world a safer place and given people hope for the better future that democracy will surely bring them," Perryman said, as spouses with infants pointed out their uniformed parents standing in formation.

"I also want to thank the families for their outstanding support during this important deployment."

The 3rd Inf. Div. Band, Rhythm of the Marne, played the Army Song before the Soldiers were released for ten minutes to meet with their families. The formation of Soldiers broke apart and rushed toward their loved ones, bursting with emotion.

"It feels unreal to be back," Sgt. Hector Rodriguez of 2/124 said. "It's been quite a few months."



Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

Maj. George Harvey, of 2/124 Inf., enjoys a long awaited wrestling match with his son upon his return Nov. 5.

Weather Forecast

FRI

High 63° Low 42°


SAT

High 67° Low 47°

SUN

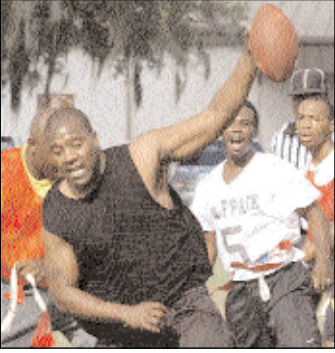
High 74° Low 53°

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Georgia celebrates Veteran's Day



Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

JROTC cadets from Hinesville's Bradwell Institute prepare to retire the colors at the Veteran's Day ceremony at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6602 in Hinesville.



Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

JROTC Cadets place a wreath with Paul Spence, president of Vietnam Veterans of America, Liberty Chapter, to honor those missing in action or prisoners of war.



Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

American flags and fancy hats were prevalent in the Veteran's Day crowd at the VFW post.



Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

VFW Post 6602 Commander David Quandt presents 3rd Inf. Div. Commander Maj. Gen. William Webster a plaque in appreciation of his support of the VFW Veteran's Day ceremony.

Pfc. Benjamin T. Brody

Staff Writer

In front of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6602 in Hinesville, a large crowd of military and civilian participants gathered to celebrate Veteran's Day Nov. 11.

Rows of weathered veterans sat before the podium, their faces full of memory, many wearing caps covered in service ribbons and unit insignia. Soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Color Guard also attended the event.

Members of Bradwell and Liberty Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps presented the colors and placed wreaths in honor of America's veterans with members of the military community.

Maj. Gen. William G. Webster, 3rd Inf. Div. commander, gave remarks at the ceremony, and praised the veterans' dedication to their country.

"Across America, we are honoring our heroes who have underwritten our freedom with honor and selfless service. Liberty County veterans, America thanks you," Webster said. "You have endured many hardships at freedom's frontier, far from your loved ones. Today, as we should every day, we thank you."

Webster's comments shifted to the current sacrifices men and women of the armed forces are making around the world.

"There are still 350 brave soldiers from Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield still serving in Iraq," Webster said. "We are still at war. It is a war for the

survival of our country."

"It's great to see so many people out here participating and honoring our large community of veterans," Hinesville city councilman Kenneth Shaw said. "We are close with our neighbors at Fort Stewart and are glad to be able to support the event."

After the retiring of the colors, JROTC cadets posed for pictures with Webster, and the veterans mingled with Soldiers from Stewart.

For the past seven years, Waycross has celebrated their version of Veteran's Day at the Ware County High School earlier than the scheduled yearly honors. 1st Lt. R. Joshua Woodruff, executive officer of B Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, was the keynote speaker for the program Nov. 6.

Woodruff, an Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran, is an alumnus of Ware County High School's JROTC. In his speech, he gave credit to his JROTC mentors who gave him a small taste of the Army and made him want more.

In Savannah, a parade including veterans and Marine Soldiers made its way downtown, while the Chatham County Veterans Council sponsored a veterans banquet at Carey Hilliard's restaurant.

Two color guard competitions took place in downtown Forsythe Park, one for veterans and one for area JROTC groups.

The Fort Stewart Enlisted Spouses Club also held a wreath-laying ceremony Monday at the Desert Storm Memorial in honor of Veteran's Day.



Pfc. Emily Danial

Patrick Johnson, 6, salutes the colors at the Veteran's Day parade in downtown Savannah.

President to Vets: Nation, People Are Grateful

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

ARLINGTON, Va. — President George W. Bush expressed the nation’s gratitude to its veterans in remarks at Arlington National Cemetery Tuesday, where he also laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

On a day that saw him sign legislation to increase some military benefits, double the benefits paid to surviving family members of servicemembers who die on active duty, and establish six new national cemeteries, Bush said Veterans Day is a day for the country to remember the debt the nation owes to all who have worn the uniform



President George W. Bush bows his head for a moment of silence after placing a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery, in Arlington, Va.

“In the harshest hours of conflict, they served just and honorable purposes ... They’ve humbled tyrants and defended the innocent and liberated the oppressed.”

George W. Bush
President of the United States

of the United States.

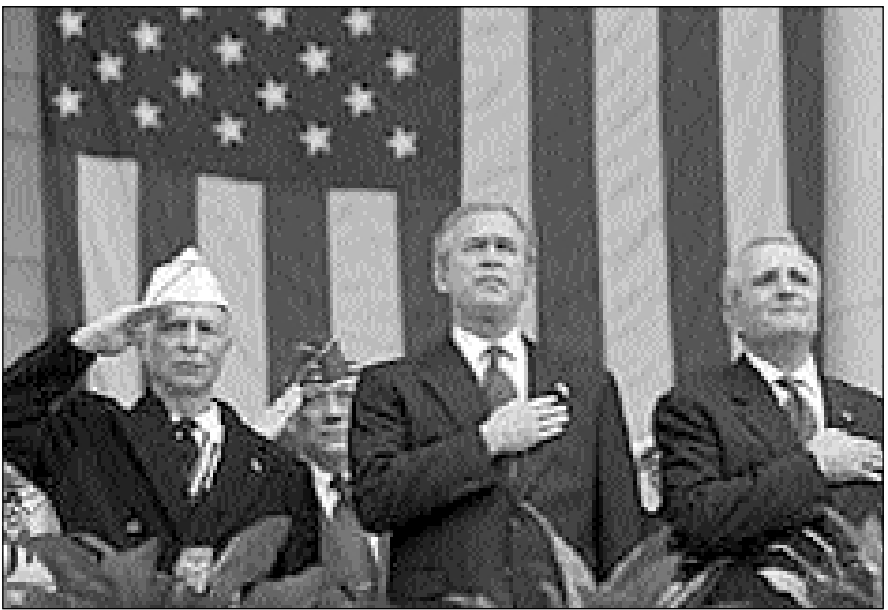
“Our veterans have borne the costs of America’s wars and have stood watch over America’s peace,” the president said. “And today, every veteran can be certain the nation you served and the people you defended are grateful.”

He said the nation knows Arlington National Cemetery as the final resting place of those lost to the violence of war. “Yet most of the markers here stand over the graves of Americans who lived beyond their years of military service,” the president noted.

“On the hills of Arlington and in the daily lives of our country, veterans have a special place,” he said. “We honor them all for their service in uniform, and we honor American veterans for the full lives of ... service they continue to lead.”

The president said that of the 25 million veterans still living today, more than 11 million are from the conflicts in Korea and Vietnam. He added that more than four million living Americans served in World War II, and that it is still possible to thank in person almost 200 Americans who were in uniform “when the guns of World War I went silent 85 years (ago) today.” That special group who served when Woodrow Wilson was the commander in chief is now more than 100 years old, he said, “and they can know that America is still proud of them.”

The president said the United States always has gone to war reluctantly, but always for a noble cause. “In the harshest hours of conflict, they served just and honorable purposes,” he said. “They’ve humbled tyrants and defended the innocent and liberat-



President George W. Bush stands with National Commander of the Army and Navy Union David Berger, and Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony Principi during the Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery.

ed the oppressed. And across the earth, you will find entire nations that once lived in fear, where men and women still tell of the day when Americans came and set them free.”

America’s mission in the world continues, Bush said, and veterans will continue to be asked to serve in the cause of freedom.

Recalling the events of Sept. 11, 2001, and the U.S.-led war against terrorism, Bush said the men and women of the armed forces have engaged the terrorist enemy on many fronts, and that young Americans have died liberating some 50 million people in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“They’ve died in securing freedom in those countries. The loss is terrible; it is borne especially by the families left behind. But in their hurt and in their loneliness, I want these families to know your loved ones served in a good and just cause,” the president said. “They died in distant

lands to fight terror, to advance freedom and to protect America. They did not live to be called veterans, but this nation will never forget their lives of service and all they did for us.”

Bush related the recent words of a Soldier serving in Iraq. “We in the military signed up and pledged to protect this great country of ours from enemies foreign and domestic,” the Soldier said. “We are fighting so that the next generation might never have to experience anything like Sept. 11, 2001.”

The president said the nation’s prayers are with its sons and daughters in uniform. “They serve a great cause, and they follow a great tradition handed down to them by America’s veterans,” Bush said. “Our veterans from every era are the finest of citizens. We owe them the life we know today. They command the respect of the American people, and they have our lasting gratitude.”

White House photos by Paul Morse

Defense Dept. photo by 1st Lt. Steve Alvarez

Marne Six Sends

Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr.
3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

Leadership Teams and the duties of my senior non-commissioned officer. All successful teams have key advisors to whom a leader can turn. The Marne Division Command Sergeant Major is my most trusted enlisted advisor and member of the Marne Division Command Group. He is authorized to correct any and all personnel, to include all officer personnel, who are in violation of any regulation, law, or policy, or in violation of general order and discipline. A responsive relationship is critical to every leadership team at every level within the Marne Division. The division CSM is authorized to come into my office at any time or to contact me night or day, any time, any place. The

"A responsive relationship is critical to every leadership team at every level within the Marne Division."

Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr.
3rd Inf. Div. commander

CSM can interrupt any meeting to talk to me if he needs to. The CSM has the lead for the division marksmanship program. The coordinated program with the division G3 and Major Subordinate Command/Brigade Teams will reward excellence and ensure that every Soldier is a rifleman and SOLDIER first! We will make every bullet count!

In order to help instill a sense of real teamwork in our units the CSM will meet and brief all newly assigned or attached personnel, reestablish quality permanent change of station/separation programs to recognize departing Soldiers, and generally help everyone help their teammates succeed. The Marne NCO Corps are winners. The division CSM will help all of us grow the leaders of the future. Marne NCOs set the example by maintaining the highest standards of integrity and discipline in the division and your units. Leadership teams are built on trust and teamwork is absolutely essential. MISSION — SOLDIERS — TEAMWORK Next week... Taking Care of our Installation MARNE SIX OUT

A day at Baltimore/ Washington airport

Will Ross
Special to the Frontline

Dear Friends and Family,
I hope that you will spare me a few minutes of your time to tell you about something that I saw on Monday October 27. I had been attending a conference in Annapolis and was coming home that Sunday. As you may recall, Los Angeles International Airport was closed on Sunday, October 26, because of the fires that affected air traffic control. Accordingly, my flight, and many others, were cancelled and I wound up spending a night in Baltimore. My story begins the next day. When I went to check in at the United counter Monday morning I saw a lot

of Soldiers coming home from Iraq. Most were very young and all had on their desert camouflage uniforms. This was a change from earlier, when they had to buy civilian clothes in Kuwait to fly home. It was a visible reminder that we are in a war. It was probably pretty close to what train terminals were like in World War II. Many people were stopping the troops to talk to them, asking them questions in the Starbucks line or just saying "Welcome Home." In addition to all the flights that were cancelled on Sunday, the weather was terrible in Baltimore and the flights were backed up. So, there were a lot of unhappy people in the terminal trying to get home, but nobody that I saw

gave the Soldiers a bad time. By the afternoon, one plane to Denver had been delayed several hours. United personnel kept asking for volunteers to give up their seats and take another flight. They weren't getting many takers. Finally, a United spokeswoman got on the PA and said, "Folks. As you can see, there are a lot of Soldiers in the waiting area. They only have 14 days of leave and we're trying to get them where they need to go without spending any more time in an airport then they have to. We sold them all tickets, knowing we would oversell the flight. If we can, we want to get them all on this flight. We want all the Soldiers to know that we respect what you're doing, we are here for

you and we love you." At that, the entire terminal of cranky, tired, travel-weary people, a cross-section of America, broke into sustained and heartfelt applause. The Soldiers looked surprised and very modest. Most of them just looked at their boots. Many of us were wiping away tears. And, yes, people lined up to take the later flight and all the Soldiers went to Denver on that flight. That little moment made me proud to be an American, and also told me why we will win this war. If you want to send my little story on to your friends and family, feel free. This is not some urban legend. I was there, I was part of it, I saw it happen.

DUI is bad — take it from me

SpC. Adam Nuelken
Staff Writer

Let me tell you a quick story. I had just returned from a six-month deployment (I know many of you out there share a similar story) to Kuwait in 2001. I just paid off my little Ford Ranger, which was a pretty nice truck ... sometimes ... just as long as I didn't want to take it off road or use it to pick up some ladies. So, I came back from Kuwait, had a little extra lining in pockets, and a car I didn't want too much. It was now time to go get myself a new ride, something I would drive with pride. I cruised down to Abercorn Road in Savannah, where I went to every used car lot looking for something right for me. After pricing every car I liked and comparing options, I had a list two pages long of used cars around \$12,000. The next day, I stopped at the first dealership on my list. I wasn't to keen on any of the cars there, but figured "what the heck, the price may be right." A some-what typical used car dealer walked up to me and asked what I was interested in. I kept eyeing my dream car, a Jeep Wrangler, while reluctantly being showed nothing better than roller skates that hold two people. These mediocre cars made me want to gag. Finally, he said, "you like the Jeep?" My reply a simple, "@#*& yeah, but I doubt I could afford it." He was a swell guy, and in his slacks and smug smile said, "I can put you in that for \$\$\$ a month! Can you afford that?!" This time more colorful expletives flew from my mouth as I agreed. To get to the point, I now had a Jeep TJ, which made me feel like the coolest kid in town. Everyone who owns a Jeep, I'm sure shares my enthusiasm. For six long days after my purchase, I drove around, feeling the freedom of the road when I ripped off the doors, top and sides. Of course, it was December, so it did get quite cold, which leads me into the point of this tangent. It was in the high 70s, low 80s when I left Fort Stewart to head to Savannah to link up with my girlfriend, now wife.

Commentary

Nice weather in a Jeep usually translates to taking pieces off. Of course, I took off the doors and sides, and in my great wisdom and forethought, left them behind in my barracks room. I journeyed to Savannah and met up with some co-workers for dinner and a drink or two. While there, I admit to telling others, "oh, c'mon, have a few because you won't get caught! The military police at the gate won't stop you" Boy, those were stupid words. After leaving dinner, I went to link up with my future wife at a club and continued to drink. Once again, my great forethought and wisdom got the best of me. Throughout the next few hours, I ended up discussing some past indiscretions I had in our relationship. I thought I had discussed it with her before, but it seems the beer had hindered my judgment. Go figure. I also had a friend who was going to let me stay at his apartment maybe three minutes down the road. Instead, the night didn't work out nearly as well as planned. My sleeping arrangements fell through when he left earlier than I because of my altercation with my future wife.

now extremely upset at me, as well as everyone we knew at the club. I then realized, I should just head home, sleep it off, and we would hopefully be able to work everything out the next day. When I got in my Jeep around 1:30 a.m., it really felt like December with the temperature dropping below 50 degrees. And if you recall, I didn't have anything on my Jeep but the roof. Factor in wind chill, and it was below freezing on they way home. Oh, I forgot to mention, I left in a short sleeve shirt and no jacket. D'oh. In those conditions, the only thing that registered in my mind was "get home. Get warm. Get Home. Get Warm...." Sure, I had the money in my pocket to stop at any hotel on the road and rent a room. But strangely enough, it would appear my judgment had gone screwy for all the drinks. My adventure took me down Abercorn, through Richmond Hill and Hinesville. I took the longest route possible to hit as many stoplights as possible, hoping my heater would warm me up a bit. By the time I got to the gate, my heater was blaring, and I was shivering like crazy. I'd never been that cold in my life, and I haven't been since. Once I pulled up, I was hoping the MP would see my misery, check my ID card and let me go. Wrong. The MP saw me pull up, and the first thing he said was, "you've got the doors off and the heat blasting. You must be drunk ... pull over." So there I was getting the sobriety tests at the front gate, shivering so bad I could hardly stand, let alone on one foot and count to 20, when one of my non-commissioned officers, who had been a designated driver for another Soldier, pulled through the gate. Talk about feeling stupid. My NCO, did try to get the MP to put

See DUI, Page 15A

Marne Voice

THE FRONTLINE
Readers respond to the question:
What are some ways to avoid DUI's becoming a problem on post?

"Don't drink, or if you do, have a designated driver."
Staff Sgt. Paul J. Eichberger
HHC 2/135



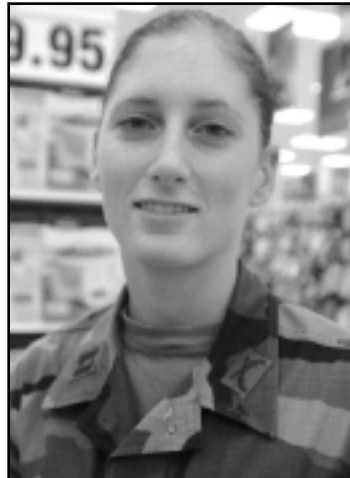
"Educate Soldiers on the strong repercussions, including jail fines."
SpC. Russell Simmons
E Co. 111th Avn. (ATS)

"Have unit designated drivers, more command involvement, and clubs should have breathalizers."
Maj. Carman N. Estrella
DIVARTY



"Set up more check points on post."
Staff Sgt. Ricky L. Reese
HHB 1/9 FA

"First sergeants and squad leaders need to hold weekly group safety meetings going over pros and cons."
Master Sgt. Rose M. McQueen
SRP 7224 MSU



"Counseling and heart-felt safety briefings. Also if one person in a group of friends would say they'll be the designated driver."
Capt. Louise M. Denecke
A Co. HQ. CMD

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Deputy PAO — Maj. Darryl L. Wright
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Command Information Manager — Jim Jeffcoat
Editorial Staff
Managing Editor — Jim Jeffcoat
Editor — SpC. Katherine Robinson
Associate Editor — SpC. Jonathan M. Stack
Staff Writer — Sgt. Mason T. Lowery
Staff Writer — Sgt. R. James Piper
Staff Writer — SpC. Jacob Boyer
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Staff Writer — SpC. Adam Nuelken
Staff Writer — SpC. Robert Adams
Staff Writer — Pfc. Benjamin Brody
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Chief — Steven Hart
NCOIC — Sgt. Craig Zentkovich
Staff Writer — Pfc. Emily Danial
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Photos by Spc. Jonathan M. Stack

The Rev. Jesse Jackson leads in a prayer as OIF veterans bow their heads and listen.

Famous reverend visits Stewart

Spc. Jonathan M. Stack
Associate Editor

Religious leader Rev. Jesse Jackson visited Fort Stewart Monday, citing concern for the Soldiers as a reason for his visit.

Jackson came and toured "Warriors' Walk," medical hold barracks and Troop Medical Clinic 4.

Jackson started his tour by walking down "Warriors' Walk" with 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Commanding General Maj. Gen. William G. Webster. During the walk Webster told Jackson about some of the Soldiers that had memorials there.

"I am here today to look at where Soldiers live, medical facilities and where families live," Jackson said.

At "Warriors' Walk," Jackson met with some Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans and spoke to them about issues Stewart is going through with the medical hold Soldiers and how Soldiers need to be taken care of.

Afterwards, Jackson toured barracks where the

National Guardsmen were being housed and an outside bathroom that the Soldiers had to walk to.

"They have to go outdoors to go to the toilet. That's too cruel," Jackson said. "It seems complaining is driving (soldiers) care and not preparation."

"We recognized awhile back that we had these problems," said Col. John Kidd, garrison commander. "It takes quite a bit of time to make these preparations."

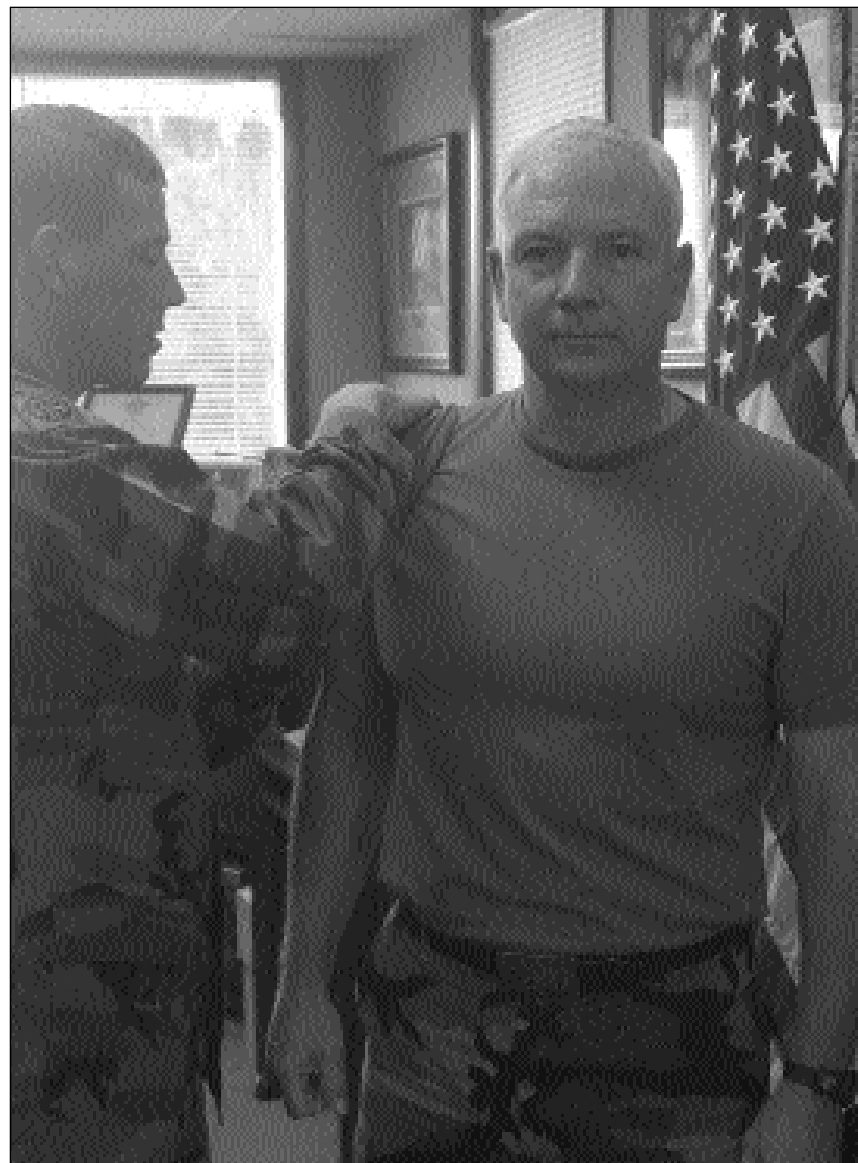
"The Army is trying to move quickly to address these problems," he added.

There are proposals to build some better structures to house mobilized Soldiers and medical hold Soldiers but again it takes some time, according to Kidd.

Jackson also visited TMC 4 and spoke to medical employees and an auditorium of medical hold Soldiers.

"(Soldiers) deserve the best medical attention, healthcare, housing and family security," Jackson said. "Your obligation and honor is to defend our country and it is our obligation to defend you. Our Soldiers deserve the best America has to offer."

Getting the cure ...



Spc. Jacob Boyer

Maj. Gen. William G. Webster, Jr., commanding general, 3rd Inf. Div., gets his flu shot from Sgt. Lance Fabian, HHC, 3rd Inf. Div., to kick off the Marne flu shot season Nov. 6. "We're in the flu season," Webster said. "It's important that everybody take advantage of this opportunity to get their flu shots to maintain the division's high readiness standards."

Reenlisting keeps the Army moving along

Spc. Robert Adams
Staff Writer

Spc. Shane W. Thompson, light-wheel mechanic for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) motor pool recently extended his Army career with a four-year reenlistment Oct. 16.

Thompson has been in the Army for two years, seven months, all of which he has spent working at the HHC motor pool fixing military vehicles.

Spc. Thompson is an excellent Soldier, who is good at his job, and losing his expertise would be a great loss for HHC, said Staff Sgt. Michael S. Lyons, HHC 3rd Inf. Div., retention NCO.

“Soldiers that reenlist have been trained to do a job, and by retaining these Soldiers we don’t have to go back to the drawing board,” he said.

There are many benefits Soldiers can receive by reenlisting. “When Soldiers have a year left of service I will call them or they will

walk in to reenlist and I will coordinate their options and see what they want,” Lyons said. “It doesn’t come down to what benefits are available to them, but what benefits they want,” he added.

One benefit Thompson received was getting the opportunity to choose his next duty station.

“I’m anticipating receiving my orders for Germany Oct. 20, 2004,” Thompson said.

He will bring his wife Heidi and his three children with him.

Along with getting to choose his next assignment, Thompson was also awarded a 4-day weekend pass.

Thompson served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He kept military vehicles moving during the war which broke down frequently due to the harsh conditions.

“We were constantly working on vehicles with limited parts, but I enjoyed the experience,” Thompson said.

Thompson plans on completing his career and retiring from the Army. “I pondered getting out, but having a family makes that diffi-



Spc. Robert Adams

Spc. Shane W. Thompson checks for battery voltage in the alternator of a M998 HMMWV. Thompson recently reenlisted for four years.

cult,” Thompson added. “The Army is a stable job and I am good at what I do.”

Lyons said, “Soldiers need to come down and see what reenlistment has to offer, for they might miss out on the assignment of a lifetime.”

112,000 service members tapped for Iraq

Spc. Bill Putnam
Special to The Frontline

WASHINGTON — Approximately 112,000 servicemembers — including more than 37,000 National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers — should be headed to Iraq and Kuwait early next year to replace the forces already on the ground, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced.

In addition, more than 3,700 reserve-component Soldiers should be headed to Afghanistan by then as well, he said at the first of two Pentagon news conferences Nov. 6 about Iraq and Afghanistan deployments.

The bulk of the troops have already received their alert orders, Rumsfeld said, but additional alerts can be expected in the near future.

Starting in January, the rotations in and out of Iraq will be completed by April, Rumsfeld said.

The rotation plan, first announced in July by then-acting Army Chief of Staff Gen. Jack Keane, is still grounded in the Central Command requirements for security in Iraq, Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard B. Myers said at the news conference.

The goal for this next deployment of U.S. forces is to reduce the overall footprint in Iraq, Rumsfeld said. The plan as it stands now is to decrease the U.S. divisions in Iraq from four to three and 17 combat brigades to 13, he said.

More units — like mobile infantry and military police — that are appropriate to deal with the current situation will be brought in, Rumsfeld said.

“But it’s important to note that numbers do not necessarily equate with capabilities,” Rumsfeld said. “This much is certain, the overall capability of the security forces in Iraq will increase.”

Active-duty troops headed in are the 1st Cavalry Division

from Fort Hood, Texas; the 1st Infantry Division from Germany; the 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division based at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and, elements of the U.S. Marine Corps’ 1st Marine Expeditionary Force out of Camp Pendelton, Calif.

The 1st Cavalry will replace the 1st Armored Division, currently in and around Baghdad. The 1st Infantry will replace the 101st Airborne and the 4th Infantry Division. The 1st Marine Expeditionary and an Army brigade will replace the 82nd Airborne Division in western Iraq.

Two multi-national divisions, led by the British and the Polish armies will remain in the southeast and southern portions of Iraq, said Air Force Lt. Gen. Nortan Schwartz, director for operations, J-3, Joint Staff, during the press conference.

Two National Guard combat brigades, the 30th Infantry from North Carolina, and the 39th Infantry of Arkansas, will augment the 1st Infantry and 1st Cavalry.

A third Guard brigade, the 81st Armor Brigade from Washington state, will relieve the National Guard 53rd and 76th Infantry Brigades that are already in and around Baghdad.

A majority of the units scheduled for Iraq are combat support and services, Schwartz said.

In addition, 1,000 sailors and 2,000 airmen from the Navy and Air Force will be sent to Iraq to take over specialty jobs like engineering, Schwartz said.

In Afghanistan, the 25th Infantry Division, from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, will replace the Fort Drum, N.Y. based 10th Mountain Division in April, Schwartz said.

It was announced Nov. 6 that when the 25th Infantry arrives in Afghanistan that tours there will be one year long. Until now, the tour length was six months. When the 10th Mountain took over, their tour was extended to nine months, Schwartz

said.

The complex environment in Iraq also forced the Army to change the types of units they deployed to Iraq, said Army Lt. Gen. Richard Cody, deputy chief of staff, G3.

Most units going in now will go in as motorized infantry, mainly using Humvees, he said.

Because of this change, the training they get at the Army’s combat training centers at Hohenfels, Germany, Fort Polk, La.; and, Fort Irwin, Calif., will be tailored to those new missions and tactics, Cody said.

The eventual goal is to hand over the security mission to the Iraqi people, he said. Currently there are 118,000 Iraqis forming and participating in various internal security units, Rumsfeld said

That makes them the second largest contributor to forces in Iraq behind the United States, Rumsfeld said.

That number may be surprising to some people given the short length of time those forces have been organized in, Myers said.

Before Operation Iraqi Freedom, the reserve alert and mobilization system “was broken,” Rumsfeld said. “It wasn’t sufficiently respectful to the troops, their families or their employers,” he said.

The goal now is two-fold, he said. The first is to give the longest possible notice to them, he said. The second is to limit Iraq tours to 18 months, with up to 12 months spent on the ground, he added.

The earlier notification will also give those reserve units time to train up for their missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, Rumsfeld said.

But the system hasn’t been perfected, Rumsfeld said. Some units may have several months to prepare while others will have at least four weeks, he said. Other units with unique missions may have to be remobilized or extended, Rumsfeld said.

1/41 FA returns to the field

Special to The Frontline

With the 3rd Infantry Division's (Mechanized) role in Operation Iraqi Freedom now done, it's time for units to get back to training for the next mission. Last week, 1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery, Glory's Gun's, did just that. Returning in July after seven months in the desert, 1/41 FA emerged from regeneration with significant turnover from soldiers leaving Ft. Stewart, going to career development schools or changing jobs within the battalion.

The purpose of the training was to get howitzer sections and platoon operations centers (POCs) Table VIII live fire certified. The battalion also hoped to get as many fire support teams certified as possible and to establish a battle rhythm for the new soldiers in the battalion tactical operations center (TOC) in handling reporting requirements, information management, and command & control.

1/41 Field Artillery fired over 5000 rounds while training in Kuwait and during combat operations in Iraq in support of 1st Brigade Combat Team. From this the battalion gained significant real-world experience in fire support, fire direction and firing battery tactics, techniques and procedures. Having returned to Ft. Stewart in July and working on regeneration the past three months, many soldiers were excited to get out of garrison



Courtesy Photo

A Paladin in B Btry., 1/41 FA prepares to execute a fire mission during the battalion field training.

and back to training in a field environment. The training was also the first time the battalion fired live artillery rounds since April 2003.

"This field problem is our first time dusting equipment off and setting it back up in a field environment since we redeployed," said SSG Peter

Arbeit, the battalion nuclear, biological and chemical noncommissioned officer. Of the 61 tracked vehicles and 85 wheeled vehicles that are assigned to the Glory's Guns battalion, 1/41 Field Artillery deployed 21 vehicles to Kuwait and drew the remainder of its war fighting equipment from pre-

positioned stocks. Last week's training exercise was the first the majority of its equipment had been used since the unit's last National Training Center rotation in October.

Many of the soldiers were performing the same jobs they performed during Operation Iraqi

Freedom. But turnover has caused most crews to have at least one, if not more, new soldiers. The majority of the officers have changed positions since OIF. The need to integrate the new soldiers and officers into the training has not gone unnoticed by the unit's leadership.

1st Sgt. James Fleming of A Battery said that the overall training was superb and that his soldiers progressed a lot in just a few days. He also pointed out that his battery has two new howitzer section chiefs and that he was impressed by how well they have adapted to their new roles.

According to new Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Patrick Antonietti, the field training exercise was planned a couple of months ago, with the anticipation that all of the unit's equipment deployed to Iraq would be returned by mid-September.

The deployed equipment did not completely arrive until mid-October.

The delay in accounting for and servicing the equipment almost prevented the field training from taking place.

"But due to good work at the battalion and battery level, we were able to get out to the field and accomplish our training objectives," Antonietti said. "Our soldiers have been working hard to prepare for this event and they are glad to be participating in a live fire exercise."

Five insights about how to quit smoking

Margaret W. Jones, LPN

Winn Army Community Hospital

You are a person, but not everyone thinks that. Some companies see you as a weak little nobody and just want to take your money and health. And if you're a smoker, that's what is happening to you, and probably a lot of your family and friends, because smoking will take you for all you're worth.

So listen up, because as a nurse and one of the people who runs the Tobacco Cessation classes at Winn Army Community Hospital, I'm going to share five professional insights about smoking that ought to make you want to kick the habit. And what a better time than during

the Great American Smokeout Nov. 20.

- Smokers are not addicted to tobacco; they are addicted to nicotine. Nicotine is a drug that occurs naturally in tobacco, and puffing a cigarette is the way to get the biggest dose of nicotine in the shortest period of time — a few seconds.

- Nicotine is addictive. The American Lung Association puts it right up there with cocaine and heroin. Most people become addicted after just a few packs. After just one carton, well, you're hooked.

- There will always be someone to provide you with your nicotine 'fix' through cigarettes. And because you are addicted to the nicotine, you will stand by and literally watch your money and health go up in smoke.

- Kicking the nicotine habit is hard, but there are proven ways to succeed. You can quit smoking any time you want. It's your right, but it is also your choice. It is something you have to do for yourself. Family and friends can provide much-needed support, but if you don't want to kick the habit, then you won't, regardless of what you tell yourself.

- You're just not convinced you have a nicotine addiction that is sucking away your money and health. Well, if your so sure you don't have a problem, then you should be willing to quit smoking, just for a day, Nov. 20 during the Great American Smokeout.

Give it a try and see how you feel. If you are irritable, fidgety, can't concentrate and feel like

you need a smoke to just settle down, then you'll know you have an addiction. And if you do, admit it and make a plan to quit smoking for good.

If you would like to quit smoking for good, sign-up for the Tobacco Cessation classes held at Winn and Tuttle Army Health Clinic. And if you are at least willing to try to quit for a day, choose Nov. 20 and plan to stop by the PX between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. to learn more about kicking the habit.

For more information about tobacco cessation or tobacco addiction, call 370-5071 or check out these Websites: www.lingusa.org/tobacco; www.cdc.gov/tobacco; www.drugabuse.gov/NIDA and www.cancer.org.

Holiday Happenings

Coalition Forces Land Component Command Holiday Mail Schedule:

Anyone hoping to send care packages or letters to a CFLCC Army Postal Address needs to meet the United States Postal Service International and Military Mail Christmas dates in order to get parcels overseas in time.

First Class Mail letters and cards
NLT: Dec. 11
Priority Mail
NLT: Dec. 11
Parcel Airlift Mail
NLT: Nov . 26
Space Available Mail
NLT: Nov. 28

Marne TV

November
2003
Schedule

Marne TV can be found on Comcast Cable Channel 16 every day of the week. Tune in to the Marne Report seven times a day for the latest from Stewart and Hunter.

5 a.m.	Army Newswatch
5:30 a.m.	MARNE REPORT
6 a.m.	Navy News
7:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch
8 a.m.	MARNE REPORT
8:30 a.m.	Navy News
9 a.m.	Air Force News
11:30 a.m.	Army Newswatch
Noon	MARNE REPORT
12:30 p.m.	Navy News
1:30 p.m.	Air Force News
4:30 p.m.	Army Newswatch
5 p.m.	MARNE REPORT
5:30 p.m.	Navy News
6 p.m.	MARNE REPORT
6:30 p.m.	Army Newswatch
7 p.m.	MARNE REPORT
10 p.m.	MARNE REPORT
10:30 p.m.	Navy News
11 p.m.	Army Newswatch

American Red Cross thanks volunteers

David Mason

American Red Cross

As Thanksgiving approaches, family and friends gather to give thanks for their good fortune over the past year.

The Savannah Chapter of the American Red Cross would like to give thanks to our volunteers who so generously gave their time, energy and spirit and to our financial donors who enable us to effectively carry out our mission of providing relief to victims of disasters and helping people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies.

Hundreds of volunteers and members of our community have given their energy, talent and generosity over the past year to help those in need.

As a result, Savannah Red Cross was able to provide disaster relief to more than 700 victims of natural disasters and house fires that have affected the community. For example, when a fire destroyed an apartment last November in Garden City, 21 people were assisted with medical help, shelter, food and relocation.

With our donated volunteer time, we taught more than 5,000 members of our



community life-saving skills such as CPR, first aid and training on the use of the Automatic External Defibrillator. We also taught your children how to swim; educated our neighbors about disaster preparedness; and we provided world-wide emergency communications for our local military personnel and their families.

These vital services would not have been possible without the valuable contributions of our financial donors. Together, our volunteers and donors are the heart and soul of the American Red Cross. You turn America's caring and

concern for the victims of disaster into immediate action.

Whether the disaster is a single-family fire or a highly publicized hurricane flood or act of terrorism, we thank our volunteers and donors who stand ready to provide vital relief services to our community. It is your continuous commitment to providing warmth and support to other members of our community for which we at the Savannah Chapter of the American Red Cross are so thankful.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving, and know that you have truly made a positive difference this year.

Soldiers selected for Special Forces

Special to The Frontline

The following soldiers have successfully completed Special Forces Assessment and Selection Class 1-04 of SFAS. These soldiers were "Selected" and will attend the Special Forces Qualification Course also held at Fort Bragg, N.C:

Staff Sgt. Michael Dillard
C Co, 1/75 Rngr Regt.
SPC Michael Freese
3/160 SOAR
SPC Renster Joel
3/130 Avn.
SPC Tony Prieto
A Co, 3/15 Inf.
SPC Everardo Ruiz
C Co, 3/15 Inf.
SPC James Sartor
C Co, 3/15 Inf.
SPC Kory Toliver
A Co, 3/15 Inf.

During the past 24 days, these soldiers have traveled on foot more than

200 miles while conducting road-marches, endurance runs, and multiple land navigation courses. Additionally, these outstanding soldiers completed one of the toughest obstacle courses in the U.S. Army – "Nasty Nick" named for Col. James "Nick" Rowe, infamously renowned for spending five years in a Vietcong POW camp. If you see these soldiers around Post, congratulate them on their exceptional performance and success in accomplishing a difficult task.

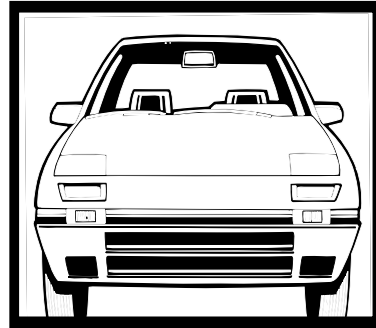
Furthermore, the Special Forces Recruiting Team sends a special thanks to the soldiers' chain of command and leadership. Their performance is a direct reflection on the training and leadership of their units.

You should be proud to have had the opportunity to train these soldiers. Your hard work and dedication as leaders has allowed these soldiers the opportunity to further their careers within the U.S. Army and has provided outstanding, highly trained and qualified applicants to the U.S. Special Operations Command.

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Food assistance program gives families a reason to be thankful

Compiled by Spc. Adam Nuelken
Staff Writer

The 2003 Holiday Food Program for Thanksgiving is taking place, and units are asked to help provide food for Soldiers in need.

Along with the food drive, the Unit Ministry Team will provide units \$30 food vouchers redeemable at the Fort Stewart and Hunter commissaries.

Unit financial advisors and the team will identify the needs of Soldiers' families and choose who will be given the vouchers.

"We anticipate our funding will support approximately ten vouchers per battalion or five for a separate company," Chaplain (Maj.) Timothy Sowers, Family Life Chaplain, wrote in a memorandum. "The total number

of vouchers will be determined by the families' needs and availability of funding."

Battalion commanders need to identify no more than ten recipients, prioritized by needs, to receive food and vouchers, he wrote. Separate companies and detachment companies need to identify no more than five people.

"The program is based on any Soldier regardless of rank or family size," Sowers wrote.

He added some families and Soldiers have been too embarrassed in the past to accept the food or money, but they should still be addressed.

Lists of names should be prioritized and turned into the brigades for consolidation by tomorrow. Families will pick the vouchers up Nov. 20 and 21.

Greasy pipes clog sewers

DPW, Environmental Branch

Grease, oil, and fat clog pipes and sewer lines just as they block arteries. As with arteries, blocked sewer lines can cause serious problems.

Such blockage will eventually cause sewer overflows that can result in health hazards, damage to home interiors, and possibly adverse impacts to our environment. "Grease-clogged pipes have become an increasingly common cause of sewer spills on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. Lower flows and cooler weather have made the problem worse," states Tressa Rutland, Directorate of Public Works Environmental Branch.

Flushing grease down the drain can be disastrous. Clogged lines can cause raw sewage to overflow into your home or your neighbor's home, parks, yards, streets, ditches, streams, and other waterways. Additionally, they increase operation and maintenance costs for local sewer departments and spill response teams.

The grease found in plumbing systems typically originates as a cooking by-product that has been washed down the kitchen sink. Meat

fats, cooking oil, shortening, butter/margarine, food scraps, baking goods, sauces, and dairy products all contain grease and add to the problem when they are washed down the drain.

The grease sticks to the inside of the sewer pipes and will build up and block the lines over time.

Use of home garbage disposal units, which only shreds the solid material into smaller pieces, does not prevent grease from going down the drain and thus, does not keep grease out of the plumbing system.

According to Rutland, "a common mistake is to flush grease down the sink with hot water, but this will only push the grease farther down the lines where it will later resolidify and clog lines. Commercial additives and chemicals, including soaps and detergents, that claim to dissolve grease may actually just push grease farther down the pipes where it can cause problems both on your property and in the streets."

The DPW solicits your help. It is important that everyone here at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield helps to prevent future occurrences of sewage spills, which will protect you, your property, and our environment.

A Native American Heritage Festival

presented by
**3rd Infantry Division
(Mechanized)**

Location..... Cottrell Field
When..... Nov. 20
Times..... 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Children's program
1:30 to 4 p.m.
Soldier/Community Program

Featuring: "Voice in the Wind"

Flute Making



Tribal Dances



Storytelling

Sponsored by DIVARTY and 1/41 FA
Inclement weather location: Newman Gym

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Earth Share

‘Gift of Groceries’ helps support military families

Bonnie Powell

Defense Commissary Agency

FORT LEE, Va. – Halloween was over before you could say “boo,” so plan now to show your support for American service-members this holiday season — but do it with a bit more than candy. Try commissary gift certificates or money for college.

“One way friends, family and the public can show their support for military families is to give commissary gift certificates as gifts, or donate them directly to military charities that assist families,” said Kaye Kennedy, chief, corporate communications. “Last year we heard from a number of installation organizations with holiday assistance and food programs that the gift certificate program really worked for them. In addition, the public was generous in donating gift certificates to worldwide organizations that assist the military, such as the United Services Organization, Air Force Aid Society and Fisher House Foundation.”

The “Gift of Groceries” program is made possible through a business agreement with CertifiChecks Inc. at no cost to Defense Commissary Agency or the federal government. The program allows anyone to purchase commissary gift certificates at <http://www.commissaries.com> or by calling toll free 1-877-770-GIFT. The certificates can be given as gifts or donated, but only authorized commissary shoppers can spend

them.

The certificates are not available for sale in commissaries, but they can also be purchased with a mail-in or fax form found at the gift certificate link at <http://www.commissaries.com>. A standard charge of \$4.95, paid by the purchaser, covers the costs of handling, printing and mailing. Additional charges may apply for large orders or special delivery, but installation charities can apply for a waiver supporting military families by checking with their local commissary.

“The program grew out of a desire for DeCA to fulfill customer requests for commissary gift certificates that could be used at any commissary worldwide,” said Jean Villerreal of DeCA, gift certificate program manager. “But the program has really exceeded all our expectations as customers, industry and military charities really embrace the service.”

“The commissary benefit offers an average savings of 30 percent or more, and that can really extend the purchasing power of a family using a commissary gift certificate,” Kennedy said.

The general public can also help outstanding military children go to college. The Scholarships for Military Children program began its fourth year Nov. 3 with a new twist anyone can donate to support the scholarships.

Since 2001 the Scholarships for Military Children Program

has awarded nearly \$2.5 million in scholarships to nearly 1,500 military students. The program has been generously supported in the past solely by the vendors and manufacturers selling groceries in the commissary system.

This year, a dedicated Web page has been set up by the program administrator, Fisher House Foundation, at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. The new site has information about the program and a donation page. The site will be “live” year-round, and it is also accessible through a link at <http://www.commissaries.com>.

“This makes it easier for the American public to show their support for military families, and it gives the program an opportunity to grow through additional funding,” said Edna Hoogewind, DeCA’s liaison for the scholarship program.

“We’ve learned that individuals, as well as corporations, are interested in supporting the Scholarships for Military Children Program,” said Jim Weiskopf, Fisher House Foundation vice president for communications. “We provide a means to donate on the Internet through a secure credit card server, and there are no administrative fees involved. Additionally, all Combined Federal Campaign donations to the Armed Forces Foundation are being used for the scholarship program.”

The application period for the 2004 scholarship program begins Nov. 3 and ends Feb. 18.

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Course preps Soldiers on Arabic culture

Pvt. Karima L. Mares

13th Public Affairs Detachment

AMMAN, Jordan — Operation Continuing Freedom, Jordan's cultural awareness course for American Soldiers, kicked off recently to prepare Soldiers for Iraq.

The Peace Operations Training Center hosted more than 200 Soldiers from Fort Hood's 1st Cavalry Division, 504th Military Intelligence Brigade, 89th Military Police Brigade and 3rd Signal Brigade, as well as III Corps Artillery, out of Fort Sill, Okla., 1st Infantry Division Soldiers out of Wurzburg, Germany and two soldiers from 231st Military Police Battalion Alabama's Army National Guard from Prattville, Ala.

Those attending the course were to take the knowledge back home to prepare their units for deployment.

The week before Soldiers arrived in Jordan, American and Jordanian instructors spent many late nights prepping and finalizing their classes to ensure the Soldiers would leave POTC with a positive experience and enough valuable information to take back to their troops.

"We utilized the talents of the Jordanian Army to prepare 1st Cav., III Corps Artillery and 1st Inf. Div. leaders to assume operations in Iraq," said Maj. Curt Beck, cultural awareness instructor and observer-controller. "We did this by giving them a look at Arabic culture and acquainting them with situations they might face, that way they can incorporate

some of the lessons they learn here into training at their home stations before they deploy."

During the first week of training, more than 100 Soldiers learned about the Arab culture first-hand from their Jordanian instructors, who covered everything from basic language to dealing with Arab women during checkpoint inspections.

"It's important for us to work together to exchange thoughts and experiences, that way we get a better idea of how each side conducts training," said Maj. Thaer Athammeh, Jordanian Armored Brigade. "It's a good chance for both sides to get a better idea of each other's values, ideas and beliefs."

Beck said that the course curriculum was developed based on feedback from soldiers already deployed and that the classes taught during Operation Continuing Freedom were a direct result of what Soldiers felt was necessary to know prior to deploying to Southwest Asia.

"This training was important for many reasons," said Sgt. 1st Class Antonio Amaro, Headquarters Battery, III Corps Artillery. "The most important, was that it assists us in what we do and if we go to Iraq, it will help defuse many situations that may arise because of culture." During the second week, more than 100 Soldiers arrived to participate in the situational training portion of Operation Continuing Freedom.

The Soldiers had similar classroom sessions with the Jordanian instructors, but went a step further when they were

broken down into teams and thrown into basic scenarios they might encounter during a deployment to the region.

"We were lucky we got to attend this training; because we were identified as a subordinate unit to the 89th MP Brigade, their brigade commander invited us to attend the training to better prepare the command to assume control in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom," said Sgt. 1st Class Robert Kendall, 231st MP Bn. "We provide military police operations and security for OIF, so this training is tremendously valuable in allowing us to be introduced to the Arabic culture, specifically, Iraq."

Soldiers participated in a variety of hands-on training scenarios to ready them for the challenges they could face if deployed to support current operations.

From being fired on at checkpoints, to searching buildings for explosives, and dealing with angry residents, the soldiers continuously dealt with high-stress situations in order to fulfill their training.

"I think this course was a good experience because it gave me knowledge of the Arabic culture, which not only enhanced my military training, but it made me appreciate the culture as a human being," Amaro said. "I think it's important to continue this training and give other Soldiers the same opportunity to learn."

Capt. James Lake, 231st MP Bn., said this type of training shows the troops their commands really care about their safety and success in any mission that may come their way.

Army theme changes to focus more on war

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Special to the Frontline

WASHINGTON — The Army introduced its new theme this week, declaring that Soldiers know they have a fight on their hands, but are ready to respond.

"Our Army At War — Relevant and Ready" describes the proactive strategy of the Army's new chief of staff.

"We're going to move before the other guy moves, and we're going to reach out and touch him at his place, not ours ... we're going to have to be strategically more agile," said Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter Schoomaker during a joint transformation conference in Anaheim, Calif.

The key, he said, is to work more closely in the joint arena, to move toward joint interdependence.

A 100-word message accompanies the Army theme and can be read by logging onto www.army.mil. An Army at war serving on a joint force is the focus of the message, and is emphasized by Schoomaker at the majority of his speaking engagements.

Schoomaker announced in October that

he wants to see immediate attention given to more than a dozen focus areas. One of those areas is strategic communications — making sure his goals and objectives are articulated throughout the Army.

The Army theme and its message are based on the chief's directions and developed by Strategic Communications, an addition to Executive Office of the headquarters, supporting both the secretary of the Army and the chief of staff of the Army, headquartered at the Pentagon.

The theme is based on Schoomaker's objectives, said Patti Benner, the STRATCOM acting director. "After meeting with Gen. Schoomaker, it was apparent that he wants to make it known that there is a national security crisis going on right now. It's no longer business as usual."

Only two years ago, the Army's focus was Transformation. However, the new enemy that the Army faces changed the focal point to war.

"America's Army is at war. We are attacking terrorism today in its home nests and spawning grounds, providing vital protection for the American People. We will not

rest until our country is safe and the enemies of freedom are defeated."

"Transformation continues in the ranks," Benner said, "but we're going to take ideas, technology and concepts that were being developed for future defense and apply them to the present."

Fifty percent of the force is engaged in the war, and funding should go toward the equipment that is already in the hands of Soldiers instead of future combat systems, Schoomaker said during the Annual Association of the United States Army conference held in October.

Soldiers not directly supporting the war shouldn't worry about their relevance, Benner said. Schoomaker has been informing noncommissioned officers Armywide that no longer is a Soldier's worth determined by distance from the front line, she added.

This Army's theme wasn't created for change sake, but is an end state where the chief wants to see the Army, Benner said.

Editor's Note: Cynthia Bauer from the Air Mobility Command Public Affairs Office contributed to this article.



General Peter Schoomaker
chief of staff of the Army

Reserves

from page 1A

and 44,000 in September.

Barthel said some of the increased workload could be attributed to the post-deployment health assessment screenings as it identified Soldier issues that needed further medical attention that might have otherwise gone unnoticed.

“You can see (the increase) obviously by walking around. You can see the parking lot overflowing, patients in the clinical areas and the pharmacy so waiting times have increased, because of the increased workload,” Barthel said.He added that they are looking at a couple of things to drive down the increases.

In the short term, “The PX pharmacy will be opening in the next couple of the weeks,” he said. And in the long term, “We also have the new CTMC (Consolidated Troop Medical Clinic) that will open in August of next year.”

A lot of business will be deferred there because Soldiers will be able to get their prescriptions, x-rays, physical therapy and lab work done there so the only thing they would have to come to the hospital for is specialty consults, Barthel said.

“We opened the additional OR plus additional staffing resources we have hired, and we have the local TRICARE network that we have been referring patients to,” he added.

In addition the hospital is working with garrison to have additional parking spaces constructed for the hospital, Barthel said.

Medical hold Soldiers were seen at the internal medicine clinic at the hospital and on Oct. 27 TMC 4 was opened, which is exclusively for National Guard and Reserve Soldiers.

“At that TMC, we have the case managers and our physician assistants and physicians all located at one building. That enables case managers to talk directly to physicians and physician assistants,” Barthel said.

He continued, “The case managers coordinate the medical care of our Soldiers, and they need to have the ability to talk to our physicians and PAs. If they are in the same building, it’s just a matter of walking from one office to another versus making a phone call or going to another building to track someone down, which facilitates their care. It just makes it easier and more efficient.”

According to Barthel, the hospital is looking at a long-term and short-term answer for TMC 4 so preventive medicine can move into its building. The short-term answer should be here within two or three months and the long term within one or two years.

“We have designed a 9,000 square-foot trailer facility that we will move TMC 4 into in the next two to three months,” Barthel said. “Long-term wise, there will be a facility constructed to hold TMC 4 and handle the mobilization and demobilization mission.”

The 7224th Installation Mobilization Support Unit and the 396th Combat Support Hospital had 45 out of 64 Soldiers volunteer to extend for another year of active duty service.

“That will help us because they are primarily

dedicated to the mobilization and demobilization mission,” Barthel said. “If they had not extended, we would have had to backfill with either contractors or another IMSU to do the mission.

“The mob/demob mission is going to continue for years in support of the global war on terror,” he added.

U.S. Army Garrison Mobilization Holding Battalion billeting issues have been addressed through the following actions:

- 273 Soldiers moved into local hotel rooms.
- 161 Soldiers have been moved into guest lodging at Hunter Army Airfield.
- 44 Soldiers have been moved into guest lodging at Fort Stewart, Hinesville, Georgia.

These current moves, along with moves from the previous week places all medical hold Soldiers assigned to the U.S. Army Garrison Mobilization Holding Battalion into rooms that are a marked improvement over their previous facilities.

Since Oct. 27, 175 Soldiers from the medical hold battalion have been medically cleared. This means that the Soldiers could have completed the medical board process and found fit or not fit for duty, or their medical condition was corrected and they have been released back to their unit. Since Nov. 3, 28 new Soldiers have been added to the Medical Hold Battalion.

Kings

from page 1A

“My impression of field artillery was you sit in the rear and shoot rounds to the front. We were right there with 3/7 in the front,” Guillory said. “I saw a lot more action than I ever dreamed I would see. It was intense at times — we took a lot of rounds and were real lucky. I have the utmost respect for 3/7 — they were there anytime we needed them and didn’t hesitate a bit.”

1/9 FA Command Sgt. Major Vernon Cook feels the tactic will be used again in combat.

After the 2nd Brigade Combat Team (Spartans), which the BattleKings were a part of, got control of Baghdad, 1/9 FA Soldiers and the rest of the Spartans headed to Al Fallujah, Iraq, to calm things down there.

“Fallujah is a flash point now, but while 1/9 and A Battery Soldiers were there, they did a great job calming things down,” Torrance said.

While in Al Fallujah, BattleKing Soldiers put down their heavy weaponry, adapted to a new situation, and hit the streets to work hands on with local civilians. 3/7 and 1/9 Soldiers coordinated their efforts in the area. 3/7 Soldiers set up static defense positions in the neighborhoods, while 1/9 Soldiers went on daily presence patrols. They distributed food and supplies, provided security, and helped the Iraqis rebuild their infrastructure.

DUI

from page 4A

me under his custody, but I think the MP was too excited and tossed me into the back of his cruiser, smacking my head against the roof and jabbing my knees into the plexi-glass barrier in the backseat.

If you haven’t ever ridden in an MP cruiser, I don’t recommend it. They look nice, big and roomy, but I assure you, that is only for the people in the front.

After going to the Hinesville Sheriff Department to get my blood alcohol tested, I got to sit in the Marne Cooler at the MP station for a few hours while my first sergeant took his time picking me up. I don’t blame him, I would do the same if I got a call around 4 a.m. and one of my soldiers was charged with a DUI.

This was our first time meeting, and he never

seemed to let that go.

The next day, a Sunday, I got the privilege to report to the commander on a day off. To put it as politely as possible, it sucked. I don’t think any Soldier or commander enjoys that. It also rained all day Saturday, and when I had a friend get my Jeep for its display at the front gate, it had about eight inches of water in it.

At the time all this happened, I was on orders to Heidelberg, Germany to work in a one-man public affairs office, a dream job in my field. I had gotten almost a brand new Jeep, and I was looking forward to promotion within a couple months. Life was good.

For the next year, I got the thrill of watching coworkers and my future wife drive around in my Jeep while I continued making payments on it. I also had the privilege of staying at Fort Stewart, and spending my entire career here.

I would also mention that upon my return from

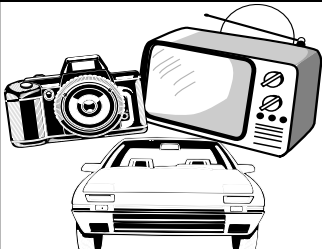
Iraq, I had to go back through the drug and alcohol counseling because my licensing state refused to accept documentation mare than a year old. And with that, the insurance hassle and getting everything in check to get my license back, it has taken nearly two years to be able to drive my Jeep again.

After the Article 15 and license being suspended, I lost basically everything, and now two years later, I have finally gotten my license back, and enjoy paying almost as much in insurance as I do for my Jeep.

Moral of this story: DUIs really do not pay. Even if you think you are a good driver, the police don’t care, and you will get caught someday. Just because some of us out here, are stuck paying outrageous insurance premiums, and have fought to gain back rank, doesn’t mean it’s the “cool thing to do.”

I have the feeling now, I’ll be able to drive my Jeep a lot longer than the first time.

Whatever it is. . .



sell it in the classifieds.

Call 368-0526 to place your ad today!

10 Things You Can Do to Help the Environment



1. Use water-based paints.
2. Recycle your house- hold trash.
3. Compost yardwaste.
4. Plant trees.
5. Conserve energy.
6. Buy non-aerosol products.
7. Carpool.
8. Keep your car engine tuned.
9. Recycle used motor oil.
10. Choose less packaging.

Revised helmet patch immortalizes World War II troops

By Pfc. Chris Jones,
American Forces Press Service

MOSUL, Iraq — Clad in desert camouflage uniforms and modern battle gear, Soldiers today look nothing like they did in World War II. But the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) is slowly reviving the spirit of its lineage with the reinstatement of unit distinctive helmet emblems similar to those worn 60 years ago in Europe.

The 501st Signal Battalion joined the 101st's three infantry brigades in the resurrection of its World War II unit helmet patch in a pre-September 0ceremony at the division's main command post in Mosul.

From the invasion of Normandy to the end of the war in Europe, soldiers of the 501st wore helmets with a box and a small tick mark on each side.

The same emblem will now be worn, but with a lightning bolt in the center of the box, symbolizing the technological advancements that have made the unit more efficient, said 501st commander Lt. Col. Welton Chase Jr.

The designs for the 101st's helmet patches in World War II were based on a deck of cards. The 502nd Airborne Infantry Regiment wore a heart; the 327th Glider Infantry Regiment wore a club, and the 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment wore a spade.

After World War II, the three regiments abandoned the patches. However, the 187th Infantry Regiment "Rakkasans," which used the Japanese Torii, continued to use the symbol, and it has since become the defining mark of the Rakkasans.

Before leaving Fort Campbell, Ky., the home of the 101st, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom,



Chris Jones, 40th PAD

Two soldiers with the 501st Signal Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) display the patch the battalion's troops will begin wearing on their kevlar. The symbol was worn during the battalion's efforts in WWII. The lightning flash in the center of the box was added to reflect the technological enhancements essential to military communication.

the 502nd and the 327th joined the 187th in reinstating their World War II symbols.

To prepare for the invasion of

Normandy, Soldiers sewed their unit emblems on their helmets so they could find members of their unit after the invasion left them

inevitably scattered across the French shoreline and in the woods, Chase said.

"Wherever they went in combat,

the helmet was always the defining mark," Chase said. "Normandy left many Soldiers scattered, so the symbols on their helmet helped them trace down other guys from their unit. On the battlefield, you can look and see immediately where a Soldier is from. The same idea from World War II applies today. Everything that's done in the field goes faster if you can identify a Soldier's unit just by looking at their helmet."

Reinstating a unit's helmet patch remains a commander's decision. Chase said he doesn't feel it's unlikely other units will come around to sewing their legacies on their helmets as well.

"It wouldn't surprise me to see others resurrect their patches, too," he said.

The ceremony marked the first time 501st Soldiers have worn the symbol since World War II.

"We use this distinct patch to link our past to our present, and it offers a bridge to the future of the 101st Airborne," Chase said. "Wherever we go in Iraq, our Soldiers will remember with honor who fought and died before us."

Maj. Gen. William Lee, the first commander of the 101st, said before the division's entry into World War II, "The 101st has no history, but it does have a rendezvous with destiny."

After World War II, the 101st had rung his words true, becoming the first and only division to be awarded the Presidential Unit Citation.

Command Sgt. Maj. Linza Chapman, 501st command sergeant major, said this history should not only be known, but shown.

"We've got a history," Chapman said. "We might as well tell it — might as well show it."

Hunting safety key to success

Provost Marshal's Office

Special to The Frontline

Hunting on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield is a sport that many of you enjoy. Here are a few things to keep in mind while you are in the woods that will keep you safe and legal while you hunt on Ft. Stewart or HAAF.

First, there is a new Search and Rescue Policy. Section 5-7(a) of FS Reg 420-4, dated May 22, 2002 states: "Before you start on a hunting trip, ensure some responsible person knows, in detail, where you will be hunting and your estimated time of return. Report back to your contact person, either personally or by telephone upon your return. It is the hunter's responsibility to have his contact person make contact with the Conservation Law Enforcement Office (767-2353/7577). If no answer, call the Fort Stewart MP Desk at (767-2822/4895). If the hunter does not arrive back from hunting at his agreed upon time, it is the responsibility of the Conservation Law Enforcement Section to conduct search and rescue efforts to account for the missing hunter(s).

Be sure to follow these important safety tips:

Weapons Safety

- Always control the muzzle of your firearm. Point it in a safe direction and keep it under control at all times.
- Treat every firearm as if it is loaded. Check any firearm you hold to see if it is loaded. Anytime firearms change hands, keep the action open.
- Be sure of your target and what is beyond.
- Keep the safety on and your finger off the trigger until you have positively identified a legal and safe target. You should never replace safe firearm handling by trusting the safety on a firearm. A safety is a mechanical device that could fail. Don't release the safety until just before you shoot.
- Never "scope" anything but game. If you need to confirm something moving across your front, use binoculars, not your rifle scope.
- When moving about before dawn, don't load your firearm until you reach your stand or until legal hunting hours.
- Hunters who are going in a group should not put other members at risk. A hunter's zone of fire

changes with every step. It is important to remain alert and aware of your companion's location at all times.

Clothing and Accessories

- Ensure that you always wear at least 500 sq. inches of Hunter Orange during the required seasons.
- Always carry at a minimum: whistle, matches or lighter, some first aid equipment. Other things that may be useful are: complete first aid kit, candle, knife, fire starters, water, iodine tablets, small signal mirror, nylon rope, flashlight, spare batteries, extra glasses, extra prescription meds, space blanket, emergency food, garbage bag, extra boot laces.
- Wear layers of clothes so you can adjust to changes in temperatures or weather. Wearing too much will make you sleepy; too little leaves you cold and shivering. Both can affect your judgment and accuracy.
- Always wear suitable eye and ear protection when shooting. They will protect your vision and hearing for a lifetime of shooting enjoyment.

Equipment

- Carry a compass and map and know which direction you need to travel in if you become disoriented.
- Hunters who plan to hunt in tree stands should use a fall restraining device from the moment they leave the ground until they return to it. Hunters should also use a hoist rope to raise and lower their hunting equipment. Don't climb with a firearm. Also, you can avoid getting debris in the muzzle by placing a balloon (or similar object) on the barrel.

Weather

- Finally, be aware of the effects of wind and humidity on the temperature. Wind will make cold temps colder and humidity will make hot temps hotter. Don't be a hot or cold weather casualty. Always drink enough water no matter what the temperature.

Enjoy a safe hunting experience. If you would like to hunt on Fort Stewart or HAAF and do not have the Hunter Safety Course yet, you can sign up online at www.gohuntgeorgia.com. The next available class taught on Fort Stewart is Nov. 22. Further questions may be directed to the Fort Stewart Fish Conservation Law Enforcement Office at 767-2353/7577.

ASK THE JUDGE

Cancelling debt difficult but worthwhile

Q: Hey Judge, I have a problem. I damaged a military vehicle a few months ago and my unit initiated a Report of Survey against me. They found me liable for damage in the amount of \$900. I submitted a rebuttal and then a request for reconsideration in an attempt to have the finding of liability overturned, with no success. I am still on the hook for \$900. My chain of command knows that my finances are a mess and that I really cannot afford this debt. They have told me that the Army might let me pay this off over time. I am afraid that I will not be able to afford to pay this even over time. I have a number of bills to pay, and I am worried about feeding my family. I love being a soldier and I really want to stay in the Army, but I am afraid that they will chapter me out if I cannot get my finances squared away. Is there anything else I can do?

A: *Because you have exhausted all of the appeals processes in the report of survey system, you might consider seeking cancellation of this debt. In a limited number of cases the Army will allow complete debt forgiveness for enlisted soldiers who have been held liable for loss, damage or destruction of government property under the report of survey system. AR 600-4 governs this practice. Be advised, however, that very few of these requests are approved.*

Q: How do I make a request to have my debt canceled?

A: *The first thing you should do is read AR 600-4 to see if your circumstances qualify for this program. In order to have your debt canceled, it generally must be more than \$100 and you must not have paid the debt before initiating the request for cancellation with your company commander. If you have already paid part of the debt, you may still seek cancellation of the unpaid balance of the debt. Most importantly, you must be able to demonstrate that being required to pay the debt would constitute a severe hardship for you and your family. Proving a sufficiently severe hardship to warrant debt cancellation is usually the hardest part of the process.*

Q: If I think I qualify, what should I do next?

A: *If you look in the back of AR 600-4, you will find a copy of DA Form 3508-R, Application for Remission or Cancellation of Indebtedness (6 pages). Follow the instructions in Chapter 2 of AR 600-4 in completing the form and submit it to your company commander with a request that he or she review it and pass it up the chain of command following the instructions in Chapter 3 of AR 600-4. The final decision on your request will be made at the Department of Army level. Remember that this practice of debt cancellation is only for extraordinary circumstances and only cases of true hardship are likely to be approved.*

Q: What happens while my request is pending? Will the Army hold off on collecting the \$900?

A: *No. Right now you are liable to the government for \$900. If a decision has been made to pro-rate your debt, you will begin to see an amount deducted on your LES each month to pay off the debt. However, if you are eventually granted a complete cancellation of indebtedness, the government should return any money collected after your commander processed the DA Form 3508-R. It is in your best interest to file the request as soon as possible and hope for the best. Remember, however, that cancellations are only given in a limited number of cases and you should still plan to arrange your finances as though you will be required to pay the full \$900. Good luck.*

3ID IN BRIEF

Stewart

Library

The library is always striving to provide the best educational resources for its patrons and have subscribed to several databases.

Get access from Army Knowledge Online Web site www.us.army.mil.

Winter Special Olympics

Event will be held at Marne Lanes 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Dec. 5. Approximately 40 to 50 volunteers are needed.

What a difference your hugs and cheers can make to these outstanding athletes!

If you don't have time to volunteer on a regular basis, this is the volunteer activity for you.

If you cannot stay the entire day, you can come for a portion of the day and be a cheerleader for all of the athletes.

For units or large groups call 767-3195 and we will fax you a group registration sheet.

Marne Chapel

Seeking volunteers to lead worship in Marne Chapel Contemporary Worship congregation. Need worship leader, musicians and praise team members. Musicians requested are keyboard player, guitarists, bass player, and drummer. Individuals responding to this ad must be of the Christian faith. Previous experience in leading worship not necessary, just a desire to serve God with your talents.

Congregation meets Sunday evening at 6 p.m. for worship. If interested in sharing your talents call Chaplain (Maj.) Tim Bonner at 767-8517 or 266-0477.

AAFES Food Court

The AAFES Food Court in Bldg. 419 (old PX building) is still open for business!

Come join us Monday through Saturday at the following hours:

- American Eatery 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Robin Hood 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Anthony's Pizza 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Countrytime Grill 11a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information call Jonathan C Miller, Human Resources Manager, Fort Stewart Consolidated Exchange 876-2494 DSN 870-8626, Fax 876-3383

Child and Youth Services

The Central Registration office located in Bldg. 443 has changed operational hours. The new hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday.

The office will not be closed from 1 to 2 p.m. as previously scheduled.

ICE Web site

Comments? Questions? Complaints? Visit the Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) Web site at <http://ice.disa.mil>. We value your opinion!

Thanksgiving Brunch

Club Stewart is featuring a special Thanksgiving menu, Sunday, Nov. 23, in honor of Military Appreciation Month.

Free for children under 9 years, half price for 9 to 12 and \$8.95 for adults (\$7.95 with a church bulletin). Bring your family and get a coupon for free game of bowling and free shoe rental.

Annual Fall Festival

The Hunter Officer Spouses Club is hosting an auction at 6 p.m. Nov. 21 at the Hunter Club. There will be hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and great fun. Auction proceeds benefit military welfare and scholarships.

For more information, contact the OSC Fundraising Chairman, Nicole Weaver, at 925-5593.

Thrift Shop

The Hunter Thrift Shop is open on Wednesday, Friday, and the first Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with consignments accepted from military identification card holders from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. It has a great assortment of bargains from baby clothes to furniture.

All proceeds are returned to the Hunter Community in scholarships, grants to units, and through other military organizations. Donations are accepted, and volunteers are always welcome.

For more information contact the Hunter Thrift Shop at 352-0376."

Salsa lessons

Hunter Club is under renovation, however activities are still ongoing.

There will be free Salsa lessons 7 to 10 p.m. Wednesdays. For more information call 353-7923.

Youth Services

School Age Services is open 6 to 9 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m. during school. There are before and after school programs for 1st through 5th graders. Enjoy fun and leisure activities, educational, tutoring, computer lab, sports, fitness and

more.

Join the 4-H community club, photography and technology groups. Check with your school for transportation. For more information, call 352-5708 or 352-6705.

Keystone Club

Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. This club offers Character Counts activities as well as other activities that meet the physical, emotional and social needs and interests of girls and boys through diversified program activities in six areas:

- Personal and Educational Development
- Cultural Enrichment
- Social Recreation
- Citizenship and Leadership Development
- Outdoor and Environmental Education.

For more information call Youth Services at 352-5708 or 352-6025

Toys for Tots

The drive has already begun and boxes were placed in the community this weekend. A box for people to donate new toys will be at the PX, the Commissary, ACS Bldg., Stewart and Hunter Credit Union and at the Hunter Chapel.

These boxes will be in place beginning Wednesday, Nov. 19 until Sunday, Dec. 14.

Library

The grand opening of the Hunter Library is projected in early Jan. The new facility will include features of the Stewart Library, including DVDs, talking books, and more.

Winn Army Community Hospital

Flu Shots

Flu shots will be available 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. today at the PX, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 15 at the commissary, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 18 and Nov. 20 at the PX. Flu shots will be available at Winn's immunization clinic 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning Wednesday.

Pharmacy hours of operation

The pharmacy is open 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday. Hours on training holidays are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The refill pharmacy is open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Thursday.

Tuttle

The pharmacy is open 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday. The pharmacy is closed weekends, federal holidays and training holidays.

Intervention services

Families with children up to three years old who may be at risk for developmental delays can call Educational and Developmental Intervention Services for a free screening.

Services include home visits, occupational therapy, special instruction, physical therapy, speech and language therapy, vision and hearing screenings, family training, developmental screenings and assessments. For more information, call 370-6349.

Physical Exam Section

The physical exams section is

now located with the allergy/immunization clinic at Winn. The clinic will be open 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call 370-6619.

"Take Care of Yourself"

The next "Take Care of Yourself" class at Tuttle will be held 10 to 11 a.m. Nov. 26. The class gives an overview of how to use the "Take Care of Yourself" book. Upon completing the class, you will receive a card that allows you to get over-the-counter medications from Winn or Tuttle.

To register for Winn's class, call 370-5070 and for Tuttle's class, call 1-800-652-9221.

Expectant Siblings Class

The next Expectant Siblings class will be 5 p.m. Nov. 26. This class helps prepare children ages 4 to 12 for the arrival of a new brother or sister.

To register, call 370-6017 or 370-6670.

Winn seeks volunteers

Winn is looking for adult volunteers to help out in a wide range of areas from administrative specialists to chaperones to certified or licensed nurses.

For more information, call 370-6903.

Tuttle TRICARE enrollment

TRICARE enrollment briefings for Tuttle are held by appointment from 9 to 11 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday.

To schedule an appointment, call 767-6633 or 1-800-652-9221.



Capt. John C. Gibson

Maj. Paul Fellingner, the executive officer of 1st Bn., 325th Abn. Inf., Task Force 1st Armored Division, and Dr. Musadak, the chief adviser to the Coalition Military Industrial Office, participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Al Khark Generator Shop in Baghdad, Iraq, Oct. 24.

Soldiers help open Baghdad generator shop

Capt. John C. Gibson

325 Airborne Infantry Regiment

BAGHDAD, Iraq — On a warm morning in southwestern Baghdad, Iraqi businessmen, workers and Coalition forces gathered to celebrate the opening of the Al Khark Generator Shop Oct. 24 in the Al Khadrah neighborhood of the city.

The ceremony began with Maj. Paul Fellingner, 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, Task Force Red Falcon, and Dr. Musadak, the chief advisor to the Coalition Military Industrial Office, cutting a red ribbon stretched across the entrance of the parking lot.

The group then toured each section of the Al Karkh Generator

Shop, including maintenance, electronics, mechanics, and refurbishing. Musadak, Fellingner, and the shop owner then made short speeches to commence the opening.

"The relationship between the Coalition and the Iraqi people gives Iraq a better future, economy, and opportunity," said Musadak, who oversaw the project.

He also thanked Coalition forces for providing, "(the) stability, security, and safety that made this project possible."

The ceremony ended with cutting another ribbon to officially open the sales and display room of the Al Khark Generator Shop.

The Al Khark project started work Sept. 1 with funding from both the Coalition and Japanese

governments.

The privately-owned shop will not only sell generators, it will also repair and restore broken generators. Coalition forces hope this will significantly improve the availability of power to the citizens of Al Khadrah.

The men working in the Al Khark Generator Shop finished construction on the structure but now begin the rebuilding of normalcy of life.

Their jobs will provide a much-needed service for the community and also provide steady employment.

The Red Falcon battalion is currently attached to the 1st Armored Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team.

CENTCOM NEWS

Processing center brings in new Iraqi Soldiers

AR RAMADI, Iraq — Iraqis hoping to join the newly rebuilt Iraqi Army began reporting to the military processing center at the government building in Ar Ramadi to begin the process of serving their country.

A processing center has been established for Al Anbar in a small room of the governor's building in Ar Ramadi. Here, hundreds of recruits gather hoping to be considered for enlistment. Many are going through the process for the first time, but others are looking to reclaim their former jobs.

So far, there have been a total of 1,150 officers and 400 enlisted personnel recruited and processed. Although some of the recruits are prior enlisted, they will all receive retraining from Coalition soldiers. Additionally, it is the goal of the military to try and teach every Soldier how to read and write. Some Soldiers will participate in educational classes as well as military training.

All potential new Soldiers are personally interviewed by a senior U.S. Army officer and must undergo a thorough background investigation.

The military processing center will continue to find and then train Iraqis who wish to defend their homeland and restore peace in their country.

Task Force operations prove successful

AR RAMADI, Iraq — Soldiers from Task Force All-American continue to conduct missions directed at stopping violence toward the Iraqi people and Coalition forces and also promoting peace and development throughout their area of operations.

The 82nd Airborne Division, also known as the All American Division, went on 168 patrols, eight of which were joint patrols

carried out with members of the border guard and Iraqi policemen. Two raids and three cordon and searches were also performed over 24 hours. The operations resulted in 39 detainees, including several individuals targeted due to participating in attacks on Iraqi civilians and Coalition forces.

Members of the 1st Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment of the Florida National Guard killed one enemy combatant and wounded two others in a raid near Ar Ramadi. The soldiers also detained 17 individuals and captured arms including three AK-47s. There were no injuries to Coalition personnel and equipment.

In total, members of Task Force All-American confiscated four AK-47s, one rifle, one shotgun, one rocket propelled grenade launcher, 15 rocket propelled grenade rounds, four hand grenades and an unspecified number of blasting caps.

Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division, 1st Infantry division, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and the other members of the task force will continue to pursue and detain aggressors throughout the area and confiscate weapons and armaments used in carrying out attacks on Coalition forces and the Iraqi civilian populace.

Two 82nd Abn. Div. Soldiers killed, in attack

FALLUJAH, Iraq — Two 82nd Airborne Division Soldiers were killed and one was wounded when their military vehicle struck an improvised explosive device in Fallujah at approximately 8:30 a.m. Nov. 8.

The wounded Soldier was evacuated to a nearby medical facility for treatment.

The Soldiers' names are being withheld pending next-of-kin notification.

The incident is under investigation.